

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 12 February 1948

SUBJECT Wiener Lokomotivfabriks

NO. OF PAGES

25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Wiener Lokomotivfabriks, Vienna XII, employs one thousand workers. There are two hundred operating machine tools, some old, some reconstructed after the war, and some newly assembled.
2. The Russian general manager is Kodin, a former army captain, about 32 years old, who speaks a few words of German. He is said to have no technical qualifications.
3. Production in 1946-1947 was 28 locomotives, together with some repair work.
4. Production for 1948 will consist of 24 to 33 locomotives of the following types:
 - 1 E Zwillingssgueternugslokomotive (twin freight-train locomotive), weight, including tender, 106 tons; produced from old steel stocks, the cost of the locomotives is 600,000 schillings apiece.
5. Sales will be handled by Generaldirektor Bondar, a Russian of the USIA Buying and Selling Office. He speaks good German and seems competent and friendly. So far, nothing has been sold, since negotiations to sell locomotives to the Austrian Federal Railroads at a price of 680,000 schillings each were not completed because of technical difficulties.
6. USIA is now negotiating to sell six locomotives to Egypt, at \$55,000 apiece.
7. Almost all the necessary steel for the 1948 production is already in the plant, except for fifty tons of boiler plate to be supplied from Alpine-Montan.
8. The Russians furnished 50,000 square meters of glass from the Brunner Glasfabrik, as well as 30,000 square meters of tar board for factory repairs.
9. The chief of personnel is an Austrian Communist named Teuber, a Viennese, about 40 years old, who was appointed a few months ago and is independent of Kodin, the Russian general manager of the plant.
10. When USIA took over the plant, the management was compelled to sign over to USIA outstanding bills for twelve million RM, which the factory owed to German firms. Consequently, the Russians may claim the firm as Russian property at the end of the military occupation of Austria.

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 2 MAY 78 Approved For Release 2002/06/07 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001300090005-0

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